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ABSTRACT

This book is intended primarily for adult and continuing educators who develop collaborative programs for adults in not-for-profit settings. Chapter 1 summarizes the literature on interorganizational collaboration and links insights from this literature to the planning and provision of educational programs for adults. Five major ideas about collaboration are introduced and discussed. The following chapters build on this theoretical foundation by examining examples of collaboration in seven not-for-profit, adult, and continuing education settings. Chapter 2 details processes used to select practitioners to interview, to gather information from them, and to analyze that information. Chapter 3 examines the roles of leadership and vision. Chapter 4 focuses on tensions and transformations that practitioners experienced in the collaborative efforts in which they had been involved. Chapter 5 describes strategies for dealing with the tensions and transformations, including monitoring the relationship, building trust and communicating, and dealing with differences. Chapter 6 deals with assessment of collaborative programming prior to, during, and after a program has been developed and offered. It identifies and describes aspects of programming that characterize different levels of program complexity. Chapter 7 focuses on the interconnected dynamics of program development and collaboration and presents conclusions about the connection between the processes. Contains 36 references and an index. (YLB)

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